

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 01241 061743Z
ACTION SS-25

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O P 061710Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1241

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CY, PINR, US
SUBJECT: CYPRUS NEGOTIATION: CONVERSATION WITH ONAN

REF: (A) NICOSIA 1237, (B) NICOSIA 1209

1. HAVING GIVEN THE APPOINTMENT THE TWO-DAY DELAY REQUESTED BY DENKTASH (REF B), I SAW ONAN AFTERNOON MAY 6. WE HAD NOT MET EXCEPT SOCIALLY SINCE ONAN'S RETURN FROM VIENNA AND, AS I EXPECTED, HE SPENT THE FIRST HALF-HOUR CONTRASTING HIS CONSTRUCTIVE, MODERATE APPROACH WITH PAPADOPOULOS' ALLEGED REFUSAL TO RECIPROCATATE THIS SPIRIT.

2. I TOLD ONAN THAT WE DID NOT FEEL IT USEFUL TO TRY TO APPORTION CREDIT OR BLAME FOR PERFORMANCES IN VIENNA. NEITHER SIDE HAD BEEN AS FORTHCOMING AS WE MIGHT HAVE HOPED. THE POINT WAS THAT A BEGINNING HAD BEEN MADE. IT WAS TIME TO CONSIDER HOW TO PROCEED IN THE MOST POSITIVE MANNER POSSIBLE UNTIL THE TURKISH ELECTIONS WERE COMPLETED AND A NEW GOVERNMENT FORMED. WITH THIS OBJECTIVE, WE HAD BEEN ENGAGED ON THE QUESTION OF THE DATE FOR RESUMPTION, ON PACE, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND ON SUBSTANCE.

3. ONAN CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD BEEN FULLY BRIEFED ON MY MAY 3 CONVERSATION WITH DENKTASH. AS WE WERE PRESUMABLY AWARE, PLANS HAD BEEN CHANGED AND HE WAS GRATEFUL NOT TO HAVE TO BE GOING TO TRIPOLI. HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR AN OPENING SESSION OF NEGOTIATION HERE ON MAY 20. A SECOND

MEETING BEFORE DE CUELLAR'S DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK WAS NOT OUT OF THE QUESTION. I REPLIED THAT ONE OR TWO MEETINGS EVERY MONTH OR SO WAS HARDLY CONSISTANT WITH THE COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINED, SERIOUS NEGOTIATION. ONAN AGREED, INDICATING IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO IMPROVE ON THIS.

4. ON SUBSTANCE, I NOTED THAT THE INFORMAL IDEAS WHICH HAD BEEN GIVEN TO CHELIK IN WASHINGTON AND WHICH I HAD DISCUSSED WITH DENKTASH ON MAY 3 WERE INTENDED TO STIMULATE USEFUL DISCUSSION WHEN TALKS RESUME. ALTHOUGH HE HAD SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THEM, I RECAPITULATED THESE FOR ONAN. HIS RESPONSES CAN BE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

A. TERRITORY. THE TURKISH SIDE IS OBLIGED TO "DRAW A CURTAIN" ON THIS ASPECT AT THIS TIME. THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY OF MORE THAN MINOR CLARIFICATION OF THE TURKISH POSITION TAKEN IN VIENNA. THE POSITION MIGHT CHANGE IN THE CONTEXT OF A FURTHER MEETING BETWEEN MAKARIOS AND DENKTASH IF SUCH A MEETING WERE HELD IN AUGUST.

B. CONSTITUTION. US IDEAS ARE WELCOME AND ACCEPTABLE. THE TURKISH SIDE WILL BE RESPONSIVE IF THE FOUR ASPECTS COME UP IN DISCUSSION.

C. PUBLICITY. THE TURKISH SIDE IS PREPARED TO FOLLOW THE US SUGGESTION IF THE GREEK SIDE ALSO COMMITS ITSELF. THE GREEK SIDE'S VIENNA BEHAVIOR ON THIS SCORE HAD BEEN HIGHLY OBJECTIONABLE.

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5. TAKING ONAN'S RESPONSES IN REVERSE ORDER, I WELCOMED THE POSITION ON PUBLICITY. ON CONSTITUTION, THE RESPONSE SEEMED TO ME TO BE TOO PASSIVE. WE WERE SUGGESTING THAT THE TURKISH SIDE TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN INTRODUCING EXPANDED THINKING OF THE FOUR ASPECTS. ONAN INDICATED A TRIFLE VAGUELY THAT THIS WAS UNDERSTOOD.

6. TURNING TO TERRITORY, I SAID I DID NOT FIND THE TURKISH POSITION ADEQUATE. WHAT WAS CALLED FOR WAS EXERCISE OF IMAGINATION AND FLEXIBILITY TO ENABLE THE TURKISH SIDE TO DISCUSS ON A NONCOMMITTAL, AREA-BY-AREA BASIS THE APPROXIMATELY SIXTEEN PERCENT OF THE REPUBLIC WHICH WOULD LIE BETWEEN THE TURKISH FORWARD DEMARCATION LINE AND THE GREEK MAP ON A NEW TWO-LINE MAP WHICH WE HOPED WOULD BE INTRODUCED BY THE UN. WE FELT IT IMPORTANT THAT THE TURKISH SIDE GO BEYOND ITS VIENNA POSITION, WHICH HAD ESSENTIALLY BEEN A STATEMENT OF WHAT IT COULD NOT DO, TO A GIVE-AND-TAKE ON WHAT AREAS MIGHT NOT BE RULED OUT. ONAN REPLIED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD WHAT WE WERE SEEKING AND HE SAID HE WOULD DO HIS BEST. HE LOOKED, AS ALWAYS, ANXIOUS TO PLEASE BUT FAR FROM CONVINCED THAT

THIS WOULD BE FEASIBLE. IN A COUCLUDING REMARK, HE
IMPLIED THAT FOR THIS TO BE POSSIBLE THERE WOULD HAVE
TO BE NEW INSTRUCTIONS FROM ANKARA.

7. I PASSED SUBSTANCE OF FOREGOING CONVERSATION TO DE CUELLAR.
CRAWFORD

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